

**PRINCIPLES OF PATHOBIOLOGY.** Edited by Mariano F. La Via and Rolla B. Hill. Second Edition. (Pp. XVII + 295. Illustrated. £5.00). London: Oxford University Press. 1975.

THE first edition of Principles of Pathobiology appeared in 1971 and the success of the book can be judged by the rapid appearance of the second edition.

The concept of Pathobiology as a new science integrating cell biology and classical pathology is possibly a false one in that classical pathology has since the nineteenth century attempted to explain disease in cellular terms. Nevertheless the student faced with the problem of explaining abnormal structure and function in subcellular terms will welcome a book devoted to that purpose. The range of pathological reactions discussed is wide, eg there are detailed chapters on inflammation, immunology, neoplasia and the chapter on cellular reaction to injury has been extensively revised and is now more relevant to human disease. This book can be recommended to medical undergraduates or to biology students and would be useful reading for post-graduates preparing for any of the fellowship examinations.

I.V.A.

**REVIEW OF GROSS ANATOMY.** By B. Pansky and E. L. House. Third Edition. (Pp. 508. 257 Illustrations. £6.50). London: Balliere, Tindall. 1975.

PREVIOUS editions of this American work have been appreciated by preclinical students and others, and this new edition can be recommended. The concepts in which Gross Anatomy deals are for the most part expressed more economically by illustrations rather than by verbal constructions. A textbook, unless it sets out to be a mere key to an atlas, is to be judged on its illustrations as much as on its verbal text. By this criterion, the authors have apportioned their effort successfully, claiming to have written the text around the pictures rather than vice-versa. Most double-page openings have on the right a set of small diagrams, and on the left accompanying text, in lecture-note form, with emphasis of key words and abundant use of tabular presentation. Surface anatomy and normal radiological appearances are included. There are some notes on clinical applications. The internal anatomy of the central nervous system is excluded (apart from the ventricular system).

The book is well produced. A clear type-face and liberal spacing make for legibility. Dr. Pansky's line diagrams, over a thousand of them, are the best one has seen of their kind. In this edition, some have had colour added, with consequent increase in clarity. One would wish to see such use of colour made much wider, and would sacrifice a section of seven over-crowded coloured plates, entitled an atlas of regional anatomy, added to this edition from another of Dr. Pansky's publications.

J.W.C.